GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1799
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2016
3G Services
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the telecom operators have not enhanced their 3G network infrastructure to match the increasing number of customers and are providing 2G services instead of 3G services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Telephone Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has reported this fact in a report on call drop submitted to the Government; and

(d) the action taken by the Government against such operators and the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure 3G services to enhance the internet speed?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) & (b) There are 7 (seven) to 10 (ten) wireless access service providers (telecom operators) in each licensed service area, however, only 4 (four) to 5 (five) service providers are having 3G spectrum in various service areas for providing 3G services. Therefore, some service providers in each service area do not have 3G network infrastructure. The status of 2G/ 3G network infrastructure of service providers for last four quarters (June 2015, September 2015, December 2015 and March 2016) is attached as Annexure. From the available data, it is seen that four service providers namely Sistema Shyam, Telenor, Quadrant and Videocon do not have 3G network infrastructure in any service area. Further, all operators, except MTNL, has expanded their 3G network infrastructure over this period.

(c) & (d) TRAI has released a "Technical Paper on Call drop in Cellular Networks" and the same is available at the website www.trai.gov.in. No report on this specific issue has been sent by TRAI to Government. TRAI has laid down the Quality of Service Standards for wireless data services through "The Standards of Quality of Service for Wireless Data Services Regulations, 2012". These regulations do not prescribe any parameter relating to minimum download speed for data services. However, the regulations mandate the service providers to submit to TRAI the average throughput for packet data, the benchmark of which is more than 75% of the subscribed speed. From the monitoring of performance of service providers it is seen that the service providers are not offering any speed based data plan.

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Annexure
Service Provider BTS / Node-Bas on 30.06.2015 BTS / Node-B as on 30.09.2015 BTS / Node-B as on 31.12.2015 BTS / Node-B as on 31.03.2016
3G 2G CDMA Total 3G 2G CDMA Total 3G 2G CDMA Total 3G 2G CDMA Total
Bharti 51005 144927 0 195932 55946 146771 0 202717 60865 148181 0 209046 90627 150893 0 241520
RTL 4411 16228 0 20639 4411 16014 0 20425 4519 6401 0 10920 4982 6450 0 11432
RCL 5906 31411 21417 58734 5927 31097 21074 58098 5997 30787 20645 57429 6231 30783 19934 56948
Vodafone 35723 131001 0 166724 38754 131928 0 170682 40298 133248 0 173546 54440 136202 0 190642
BSNL 27136 77575 11189 115900 27851 78286 11112 117249 28587 79027 11060 118674 29660 80004 11010 120674
Idea 32421 115357 0 147778 38012 118980 0 156992 44901 122215 0 167116 48928 126571 0 175499
Tata 11282 43261 13303 67846 11910 43285 12997 68192 12471 42745 12978 68194 13113 43384 12867 69364
Aircel 11748 47056 0 58804 12020 47711 0 59731 14928 48831 0 63759 16255 49540 0 65795
MTNL 1454 2110 275 3839 1438 2107 275 3820 1440 2112 243 3795 1441 2114 0 3555
Sistema Shyam 0 0 8249 8249 0 0 8222 8222 0 0 8214 8214 0 0 8166 8166
Telenor 0 23589 0 23589 0 23594 0 23594 0 24112 0 24112 0 24575 0 24575
Quadrant 0 2235 13 2248 0 2293 13 2306 0 2376 13 2389 0 2394 13 2407
Videocon 0 5067 0 5067 0 5084 0 5084 0 5070 0 5070 0 5102 0 5102
Total 181086 639817 54446 875349 196269 647150 53693 897112 214006 645105 53153 912264 265677 658012 51990 975679
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BTS − Base Transceiver Station; Node-B − BTS for 3G Services
RTL − Reliance Telecom Limited; RCL − Reliance Communication Limited; BSNL − Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited; MTNL − Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited

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